President : Such things have happened.

Ayurveda Hospital, Trivandrum.

19. *Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of out-patients treated in the Ayurveda Hospital, Trivandrum in 1120 ; and

(*b*) the number of in-patients treated up to Medom in 1121 ?

Mr. V. Ramanuja Aiyangar : (*a*) 78,305.

(*b*) 593.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I know whether there is a proposal to provide additional accommodation to the Ayurveda Hospital ?

Mr. V. Ramanuja Aiyangar : Yes, Sir, there is a proposal.

Aeroplane.

20. *Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have purchased an aeroplane ;

(*b*) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the date of purchase and the cost ; and

(*c*) the purpose for which it is used ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) and (*c*) Do not arise.

Aerodrome construction.

21. *Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is any aerodrome under construction in Trivandrum;

(*b*) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the cost or the estimated cost for the same ;

(*c*) when the work was started ;

(*d*) if completed, the date of completion ;

(*e*) if not completed, the date on which it will be completed ; and

(*f*) whether the aerodrome will be in any way useful to the public of Travancore ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) About Rs. 12 lakhs.

(*c*) In November 1945.

(*d*) Not completed.

(*e*) In about 5 months more.

(*f*) Yes.

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Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: May I know the nature of the use of the aerodrome to the public of Travancore ?

President: I have already stated elsewhere that the ordinary time taken by anyone to go from Trivandrum to Ernakulam if he uses the car is about 8 to 9 hours. If he uses the railway, especially the one which we are enjoying, it takes about 24 hours because he will have to go through Trichy, and if it is by waterways it takes about 20 or, at all events, 18 hours. There was an agreement reached between the Governments of Travancore, Cochin, Mysore and Madras and the Tata Company by which a biweekly service of planes starting from Trivandrum and reaching Ernakulam in 45 minutes and from there reaching Bangalore in just over 2 hours and from there reaching Madras in 2 hours, was started. Roughly, therefore, one starting from Trivandrum could reach Madras in 5 hours, Bangalore in 3 1/2 hours and Ernakulam in 45 minutes. Such a service was considered very important and necessary and the Government of India were about to give that concern to other companies because the Government of India is granting licences to various persons and we did not want any private company or licensee to operate in this State. Therefore, it is that this Government initiated discussion, and after the discussion all the four Governments have come to some kind of agreement about the sharing of expenses until it begins to pay. The charges will be more or less equal to the 1st class railway charge. Light parcels and mails can also be taken. Honourable members will therefore see that from Ernakulam to Trivandrum one could come and return in about 1 1/2 or 2 hours. Therefore, we can realise the efficacy of the scheme from a commercial point of view. At one time we were rather segregated. But now people in Travancore have commercial contacts with other countries. Therefore, from the commercial and postal points of view it was considered very useful. The service will start from the 1st of October this year.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: May I know whether Tatas will pay anything to this Government ?

President: They are using their planes. We are not buying any planes. The honourable member seems to be under some difficulty. Tatas are running service from Karachi to Colombo. They are being paid a very heavy sum by the Government of India. They are also running a service from Karachi to Calcutta. The timings have been fixed in such a way so as to synchronise it with the All India service so that it may be of use to people wishing to go from Trivandrum to

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Bombay. No such company in the world pays to any Government. Government have to pay to the company but it is hoped it will be a comparatively small amount. We have made provision for the division of profit as soon as it is earned.

Tramway for Trivandrum.

22. *Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal in consideration to instal a Tramway system in the City of Trivandrum ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: No.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ട്രാംവേ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സാദ്ധ്യതയെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷിക്കുകയുണ്ടായോ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: With the facilities available now it is not found necessary to go in for this.

Government Motor Boats.

23. *Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: Will the Government be pleased to state how many motor boats have been acquired by them ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: Two.

Mr. K. Shahul Hameed (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*): May I know what these boats are intended for ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: They are primarily intended for tugging lighters and Valloms.

Vizhingam Harbour.

24. *Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: Will the Government be pleased to state when the Vizhingam Harbour Works will commence ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: As soon as possible.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether any preliminary survey has been conducted ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: Yes.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know the extent of land proposed to be acquired ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: It has not been finally decided.

Mr. G. Madhavan: (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*): May I know the approximate amount required for completing the harbour ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: The preliminary estimate is Rs. (242 lakhs.) two hundred and forty two lakhs.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: അതിലേക്ക് ഏതെങ്കിലും സ്പെഷ്യൽ ഓഫീസറെ അപ്പോയിന്റ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: Just recently a Supervisor was appointed to start the preliminary investigation.

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